

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5067

As Reported By Senate Committee On:
Transportation, February 19, 2007

Title: An act relating to vehicle headlights.

Brief Description: Requiring the use of headlights when windshield wipers are used.

Sponsors: Senator Jacobsen.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 1/22/07, 2/19/07 [DP, DNP].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Haugen, Chair; Murray, Vice Chair; Swecker, Ranking Minority Member; Berkey, Jacobsen, Kastama, Kilmer, Pflug and Spanel.

Minority Report: Do not pass.

Signed by Senators Marr, Vice Chair; Benton, Clements, Delvin, Holmquist, Kauffman and Sheldon.

Staff: Dory Nicpon (786-7321)

Background: Every motor vehicle operated on Washington highways must be equipped with working headlights and driver-controlled windshield wiper blades. Vehicles upon a Washington highway must display lighted headlights anytime from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise, and whenever persons or vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible to a distance of one thousand feet due to insufficient light or atmospheric conditions.

Summary of Bill: The circumstances when a vehicle must display lighted headlights are expanded to include anytime when the vehicle's windshield wipers are in use due to snow, rain, fog, or other sight-limiting atmospheric conditions.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: None.

Persons Testifying: No one.